
R.J. HENDERSON'S SHIRT FACTORY (FORMER)

Location

337-339 BRUNSWICK ROAD, BRUNSWICK, MORELAND CITY

Municipality

MERRI-BEK CITY

Level of significance

Included in Heritage Overlay

Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO42

Heritage Listing

Merri-bek City

Statement of Significance

Last updated on - January 1, 2008

The former Henderson's Shirt Factory is of local historical Significance. It is Brunswick's earliest known substantially intact purpose-built clothing factory. Brunswick later became an important centre of clothing, textile and related industries, and the Henderson factory dates from the beginning of the establishment of textile industries in the area.

Heritage Study/Consultant	Moreland - Keeping Brunswick's heritage: A Report on the Review of the Brunswick Conservation Study, Context Pty Ltd, 1990; Moreland - Northern Suburbs Factory Study, Vines, G and M, Churchward, 1992; Moreland - City of Moreland Heritage Review, Allen Lovell and Associates, 1999;
Hermes Number	59003
Property Number	

Physical Description 1

The former Henderson's factory comprises two attached brick buildings, one single storey (No. 333) and the other two storey (No. 335). The walls were originally face brick with rendered detailing, but the entire facade has been painted cream. The facades of both buildings have a series of semi-circular arched openings springing from shallow brick piers. No. 333 has four such arched bays, two containing timber-framed hopper windows, one an arched doorway with moulded head and highlight, the last a vehicle entrance. No. 335 has arched windows at first floor level and rectangular ones below, separated by spandrel panels with delicate mouldings. There is an arched doorway and vehicle entrance (the latter probably a later addition). The parapets of both buildings have projecting cornices; the parapet of No. 335 is surmounted by acroteria and scrolls.

Key Architectural Elements: one and two storey Classical Revival facades with tall arched openings with rendered mouldings
projecting cornice to parapet
delicate mouldings to spandrel panels
timber-framed windows

Context: The location among late 19th Century housing reflects the origin of the business as a backyard factory. The other major factory in this area (Stephen & Co. in Grey St.) was also a clothing manufacturer.

Condition and Integrity: In good condition. A new vehicle entrance has been made in the front wall, some windows have been blocked up and the original red brick and render finish on the facade has been painted over.

Comparative Analysis: Prior to the turn of the century, most clothing appears to have been manufactured either by seamstresses and tailors on a one off basis. Henderson followed Stephens & Co. (in Grey St. by 1895) and the Sterling Shirt and Clothing Co. (at 77 Weston St. in 1900). By the 1920s several other clothing factories had been established in Brunswick including the Albion Clothing Co. G Burgin PTY LTD. Chandler and Foley, H.H. Mann, Staley & Staley, Jackson & Eckersall PTY LTD and Bowen and Collins. Henderson's appears to be the most architecturally elaborate of the surviving clothing factories. Its colonnaded facade is particularly unusual.

Conservation Guidelines: remove paint from brickwork
preferably reinstate windows and doors to original designs
preferably remove steel bars from windows

This place/object may be included in the Victorian Heritage Register pursuant to the Heritage Act 2017. Check the Victorian Heritage Database, selecting 'Heritage Victoria' as the place source.

For further details about Heritage Overlay places, contact the relevant local council or go to Planning Schemes Online <http://planningschemes.dpcd.vic.gov.au/>